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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/657,408	09/08/2003	Jim Jones	20470.056	9933

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WHITAKER, CHALK, SWINDLE & SAWYER, LLP  
3500 CITY CENTER TOWER II  
301 COMMERCE STREET  
FORT WORTH, TX 76102-4186

EXAMINER
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HEWITT, JAMES M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3679

DATE MAILED: 01/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

### **SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below to correct an inadvertent error discovered in the examiner's amendment of 10/6/04. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 16 line 3, the phrase --the bell end defining an end face at the opening, -- has been inserted after "surface,".

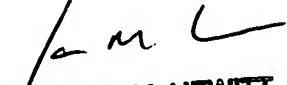
Note that this amendment corrects the amendment "In claim 16 line 3, the phrase --the bell end defining an end face at the opening, -- has been inserted after "joint," , as "joint," does not appear in line 3. As noted above, the phrase should have been inserted after "surface," and not after "joint,".

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M Hewitt whose telephone number is 703-305-0552. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 930am-600pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Stodola can be reached on 703-308-2686. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3679

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
**JAMES M. HEWITT**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**